

drawings which obviate the objections but respectfully request that compliance with the requirement be held in abeyance until all claims of the application are allowed.

The claims have been amended to more particularly define the invention and to obviate the basis for rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112.

It is noted with appreciation that claims 2 and 3 have been indicated to be allowable.

Claims 1 to 5 are in this case.

Claims 2-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 for the reasons stated at pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action.

Applicants have amended the claims after careful consideration of these reasons and submit that the grounds for rejection have been removed. Withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as anticipated by Uchiyama et al.

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as unpatentable over Uchiyama et al in view of Zuurveen.

Reconsideration of the claims as amended and withdrawal

of the rejection is respectfully requested.

To expedite the prosecution of the application without acquiescence to the examiner's position, the claims have been amended to more particularly define the invention. New Claim 5 has been added to recite a structure wherein the peripheral surface of the head assembly comprises for each cutter assembly, a first portion inside the annular ring and a second portion outside the annular ring, the first portion of the peripheral surface being fixed to a body portion of the shaver, and the guard being secured to a removable portion of the head assembly.

Uchiyama et al fails as an anticipation and does not render the invention obvious because it has no disclosure of the structure recited in the claims. Even without the amendment, it is not seen how the claims are anticipated since the Examiner did not specify where all elements of Claim 1 are disclosed and a reading of the patent does not clarify the same. Should the Examiner adhere to this position, it is requested that the specific structure relied on to disclose the first and second portions be enumerated.

Zuurveen adds nothing to cure the deficiency of the primary reference and its failure to disclose the instantly claimed invention.

It is submitted that the rejection is untenable and should be withdrawn.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. An early issuance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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On February 16, 1999
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